

GCMB's Impairment Considerations & Treatment



- All licensees **must** report to the Board within 30 days of becoming unable to practice medicine with skill and safety by result of illness, drug use or mental or physical condition
- Upon entering voluntary treatment, a licensee usually asked to sign an ***Agreement Not to Practice*** (ANTP)
- In cases of drug-related issues, intensive outpatient or residential treatment is usually completed before a return to practice is considered

GCMB's Impairment Considerations & Treatment (cont.)



- The Board is required to protect the public from practitioners who have become unable to practice with skill and safety due to substance abuse or other mental or physical problems; when possible, practitioners who have been rehabilitated are allowed to return to practice under Board supervision
- A licensee must interview with the Board's Wellness Committee prior to returning to practice
- Licensees may be placed under either a public or private order when returning to practice; factors determining whether the order is public or private include: patient harm, first time treatment, legal issues, self-reporting

GCMB's 3 Basic Rules of Impairment Issues



- **First Rule**

- Don't Panic!

Confidential, non-disciplinary
treatment options exist

- **Second Rule**

- Seek Help

Get help before there is patient
harm

- **Third Rule**

- Notify the Board

Mandated Reporting—there are
some exceptions for impairment

Who to Contact at the GCMB



If the need to report an impairment issue please contact

Jean R. Sumner, MD-Medical Director

Jeff Lane, MPH- Director of Investigations

Georgia Composite Medical Board

2 Peachtree Street NW, 36th Floor

Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 656-3913